

November 16, 1961

Dr. Detlev Bronk
President
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Det:

I understand that the Academy has been charged to form a search committee to make recommendations for a possible successor to Waterman.

You may know that I had found it wise to refuse an opportunity to serve on the National Science Board during the previous administration and this in part reflects the sensitivity that I share with a great many of my colleagues with regard to the importance of a forceful appointment.

Having given some thought to the matter, and knowing that most of the suggestions that might come to mind would undoubtedly be already familiar to you, I would like to add one for your consideration who might not be so obvious a choice.

I am speaking of Edward L. Ginzton who is Professor of Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering at Stanford University, and whom you of course know, has an important factor in the linear accelerator program at Stanford. Ginzton is also, of course, closely identified with Varian Associates where he now serves as chairman of the board. People who do not know him personally, but who read the bare data of his affiliation with industrial enterprise may not appreciate how much of a scholar and academically oriented scientist Ginzton is, as well as a highly successful manager. I would have the fullest confidence in the basic humanistic orientation of his philosophy of administration as well as his technical capacity to run the affairs of such a complex organization.

Yours cordially,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics